

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-8, 10, 11 and 18-21 were previously pending. By this response, Applicant amends claims 1 and 21. As a result, claims 1, 3-8, 10, 11 and 18-21 are pending for examination with claims 1, 20 and 21 being independent claims. No new matter is added.

Claim rejections Under 35 USC 102

Claims 1, 3-5, 7, 8, 11, 18, 19 and 21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C§102(e) as being anticipated by Christensen (US 2004/141468).

Each of independent claims 1 and 21 have been amended to recite a subscriber location information code that comprises priority and protocol information.

Claim 1, as amended, recites that the subscriber location information code comprises one or more indexes of MAC address and one or more indexes of priority and protocol encapsulation mode, and distinguishes Christensen in this regard. According to the method of claim 1 or in the network of claim 21, different subscriber location information codes can be had if the priorities or the encapsulation mode are different, even with the same port number, the same device frame number, and the same MAC address. Two services with different priorities running on the same computer may have different subscriber location information codes. For example, a BRAS/SR can process distinctively based on the subscriber location information codes.

Additionally, Applicant respectfully submits that the virtual MAC address of Christensen does not include a device frame number and the port number, as included in the subscriber location information code of claims 1 or 21. To the contrary, Christensen discloses an index field which is used to ensure that end-users can use more than one MAC address with a particular PVC (paragraph [0033] of Christensen). It is inappropriate to compare the index field in Christensen to the device frame number of claims 1 and 21. Moreover, as a permanent virtual circuit established between a user terminal and the access node, the PVC of Christensen does not correspond to the port number in claim 1.

As discussed above, Christensen fails to teach or disclose the above described features of claims 1 or 21. Each of the claims depending therefrom are patentable for at least the same reasons. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections Under 35 USC 103

Claim 6 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C§103(a) as being unpatentable over Christensen in view of Rai (US 6675208). Claims 10 and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C§103(a) as being unpatentable over Christensen in view of Edward Reuss (US 2003165230).

Independent Claim 20

Claim 20 recites a method for transferring subscriber location information in a network communication system. A 48-bit subscriber location information code of the method comprises 7 bits index of a port number of a port through which the subscriber access the network.

As conceded in the office action, Christensen fails to teach or disclose the feature “7 bits index of a port number of a port” as recited by claim 20. It is suggested, however, that one of skill in the art would look to Reuss to satisfy this deficiency because Christensen states that the disclosed layout is but one of many and the Reuss teachings a 24-bit extension field.

Initially, Applicant respectfully points out that neither Christensen nor Reuss teach or disclose a 7 bits index of a port number of a port, as recited by claim 20, and that the rejection of independent claim 20 is overcome for at least this reason. Moreover, Applicant respectfully points out that one of ordinary skill in the art would not arrive at that which is recited by claim 20, based on the teachings of Christensen and Reuss. Christensen chooses one specific format for a MAC address, as shown in FIG. 8, and although Christensen suggests that changes could be made, there are myriad possibilities that could be considered. Reuss seems to acknowledge this by virtue of choosing a 24 bit extension field for the purpose of ensuring that a device's MAC-48 address will be a globally unique identifier.

For at least the above reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection of independent claim 20, is overcome. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Dependent Claims 6 and 10

Rai and/or Reuss fail to cure the deficiencies of Christensen with respect to the currently amended claim 1 as discussed above, such that claims 6 and 10, is each patentable for at least the same reasons as claim 1.

Accordingly, withdrawal of these rejections is respectfully requested.

In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 23/2825 under Docket No. H0678.70002US00 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

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Respectfully submitted,

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